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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

Safe Driving Tips for Motorists and Vulnerable Road Users

Concord, NH — The Office of Highway Safety's (OHS) mission is to drive down fatalities in 2020 and beyond. Continued efforts behind coordinated enforcement, targeted media messaging and education remain key. With the help of our state and community partners, as well as the motoring public, we can keep fatalities down and Drive Toward Zero together. This year, in NH there have been 46 traffic-related fatalities with adult pedestrian and bicycle fatalities trending up from the same period last year.

"We, as individual drivers, are in control of our vehicles and the choices made about how we choose to operate these vehicles", said Captain William Haynes, Commander Office of Highway Safety. He continued, "Collectively, we can reduce the tragic events occurring on our highways and local roads by simply making the right choices." The Office of Highway Safety recommends the following safe practices while driving and riding:

- Do not drive or ride distracted. Distraction includes anything that takes your attention away from the road.
- Slow down. Follow the posted speed limit.
- Drink responsibly. Designate a sober driver, call for a ride or be the designated driver.
- Buckle Up in every position. Every trip, every time.
- Remain alert for vulnerable road users such as pedestrians, bicyclists and motorcyclists.
- Stay out of blind spots of large trucks and buses, make sure to pass safely and do not cut off these vehicles.
- Bicyclists and pedestrians should remain alert and avoid using handheld devices when crossing busy intersections and streets.
- Pedestrians should use sidewalks when available. If there are no sidewalks available, walk as close to the left side of the street as possible, facing traffic. Bicyclists must ride *with* traffic.
- When walking/riding at night, wear brightly colored gear and/or use a flashlight for visibility.

We want to promote safe driving habits to ensure we all get home safely. Whether you ride, drive or walk, our goal is to Drive Toward Zero deaths. One death is too many. We are all in this together.

Follow OHS on Twitter at https://twitter.com/nh_ohs and Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/NHHighwaySafety>. Also, sign up for *NH Alerts* to receive emergency information via your mobile phone.

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